

NASC ADOPTS DUAL APPROACH TO RAISING SAFETY STANDARDS

The National Access and Scaffolding Association (NASC) has a long and proud record of increasing safety standards in the scaffolding industry.

The confederation was established in 1945 with the aim of promoting high standards of safety within the industry. Nearly 80 years later, raising and maintaining safety standards remains at the heart of the NASC's objectives – driving every activity it undertakes.

The industry has inarguably changed – for the better – in that time. NASC members and non-members alike are using NASC safety guidance and operatives are undergoing formal CISRS training including a mandatory CPD requirement.

Over the decades, accident figures have fallen dramatically. This is largely thanks to the creation, dissemination and adoption of NASC safety guidance, including the iconic SG4 Preventing Falls in Scaffolding Operations.

It's clear that the NASC has played a huge role in making what was an unsafe industry safe. Now the NASC's focus has shifted to making a safe industry safer. The NASC has adopted a two-pronged approach to achieving this goal.

Through its experienced and active committees, made up of representatives from NASC member companies, the NASC continues to update and expand its library of safety, contractual and technical guidance, the vast majority of which is available for free through the NASC website.

This activity is vital in ensuring scaffolding contractors have access to relevant and fit-for-purpose guidance relating to a broad range of topics.



The NASC is complementing this ongoing task with a programme of reminder toolbox talks, which can be delivered by NASC members to their operatives and made available for free download via the NASC website.

These toolbox talks will serve as safety refreshers, ensuring that safe working practices remain at the front of operatives' minds when they're working on site and at height.

Talks will be created on a range of issues, such as the dangers of 'low risk' complacency, so often the cause of a 'slip and trip on the same level' – the most common cause of incident recorded in the NASC safety report for the last 14 years in a row. The NASC has also identified falls from height as a topic for a toolbox talk reminders.

It is hoped that by implementing this combined approach of top-level guidance and regular on-site reminders the NASC will be able to make the scaffolding industry safer still.

www.nasc.org.uk



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Having helped well over a million students achieve professional success, RRC is leading the way in health and safety training.

Achieving any of the NEBOSH Certificates is a huge success and can improve future career prospects.

However, a further benefit is that if students have been awarded the NEBOSH National or International General, Construction or Fire Certificate in the last five years they are exempt from Unit IGC1/NGC1, and can gain a further NEBOSH Certificate by simply 'topping-up' with completing the appropriate second unit.

All RRC NEBOSH General, Fire and Construction Certificate courses are unitised so can be topped up by classroom training or an online course. Having two or more NEBOSH Certificates helps individuals to stand out to employers and this additional specialised knowledge can improve career prospects.

Gary Fallaize, RRC Managing Director commented: "Certificate top-ups are great because they recognise the learning you have already achieved and allow you a quick route to gain that additional knowledge and NEBOSH Certificate, and in such a competitive employment market it is all about standing out."

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